BRANDON CHOI • AL RIO

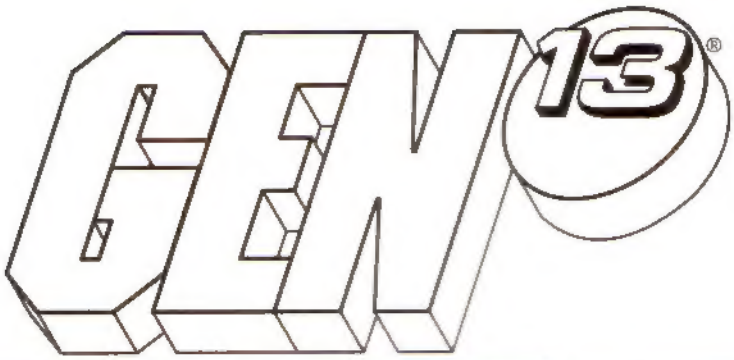
GEN 13

image

23 OCT

$2.50 $3.85 CANADA

DIRECT SALES



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Meet the Gen13! Rainmaker, Freefall, Grunge, Burnout, and Fairchild. These Gen-Active teenagers, first generation descendants of the legendary Team 7, were recruited into I.O.'s program, Project Genesis, a project secretly intended to develop superhumans. Upon discovering that the program was nothing more than a breeding ground for Gen-Actives, they escaped the compound with the help of renegade I.O. agent, John Lynch, and to this day remain fugitives.

FAIRCHILD: Caitlin Fairchild. The daughter of Team 7's Alex Fairchild. Deemed the unofficial leader of the group, Fairchild possesses superhuman strength, speed, agility and intelligence.

GRUNGE: Percival Edmund Chang. The son of Team 7's Philip Chang. This slovenly, cold pizza-eating party animal has the power to mimic the molecular structure of any material he touches.

BURNOUT: Bobby Lane. The son of John Lynch. Burnout can project high energy plasma, which bursts into flame when exposed to oxygen. He is impervious to heat and can fly by creating thermal updrafts.

RAINMAKER: Sarah Rainmaker. Apache born, Rainmaker has the ability to control the natural elements. She can also fly by manipulating the air currents and can direct water with a simple gesture. The amplifier bands she wears on her wrists enable her to deliver very potent electric blasts.

FREEFALL: Roxanne Spaulding. The youngest and spunkiest of the team, Freefall can void the pull of gravity and levitate herself or any other being or object she desires.

IN CASE YOU'RE JUST JOINING US...

Roxy, Grunge, and Fairchild escaped from an outer space encounter with the murderous alien race known as the D'Rahn. But their troubles were only beginning as they returned not to their own world, but to the Earth of the near future! In this potential world of tomorrow, humanity is on the verge of losing a decades-long war with the D'Rahn, and the only man with a plan is John Lynch, now Executive Director of International Operations—but it will require the deaths of our three heroes!

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LIFE IN THE BIG CITY

BRANDON CHOI
story
AL RIO
art
JOE CHIODO
colors
WILDSTORM FX
computer colors
BILL O'NEIL
letters

THE FUTURE. NEW YORK CITY.

"ANY WORD FROM THAT PATROL, CORPORAL?"

"NEGATIVE, CAPTAIN. AND THEY AREN'T RESPONDING TO ANY OF OUR QUERIES."

"THAT'S JUST GREAT!

"COMMAND CENTER WANTS ANSWERS ABOUT ANOMALOUS READINGS FROM THE *SEAPORT*---"

-- AND WE'RE STUCK SITTING HERE WITH OUR THUMBS UP OUR @$$ES! TRY RAISING MANNING ON THE COMM-LINE AGAIN!

RIGHT AWAY, SIR.

BRIDGE POST ONE TO SERGEANT MANNING, DO YOU COPY? OVER.

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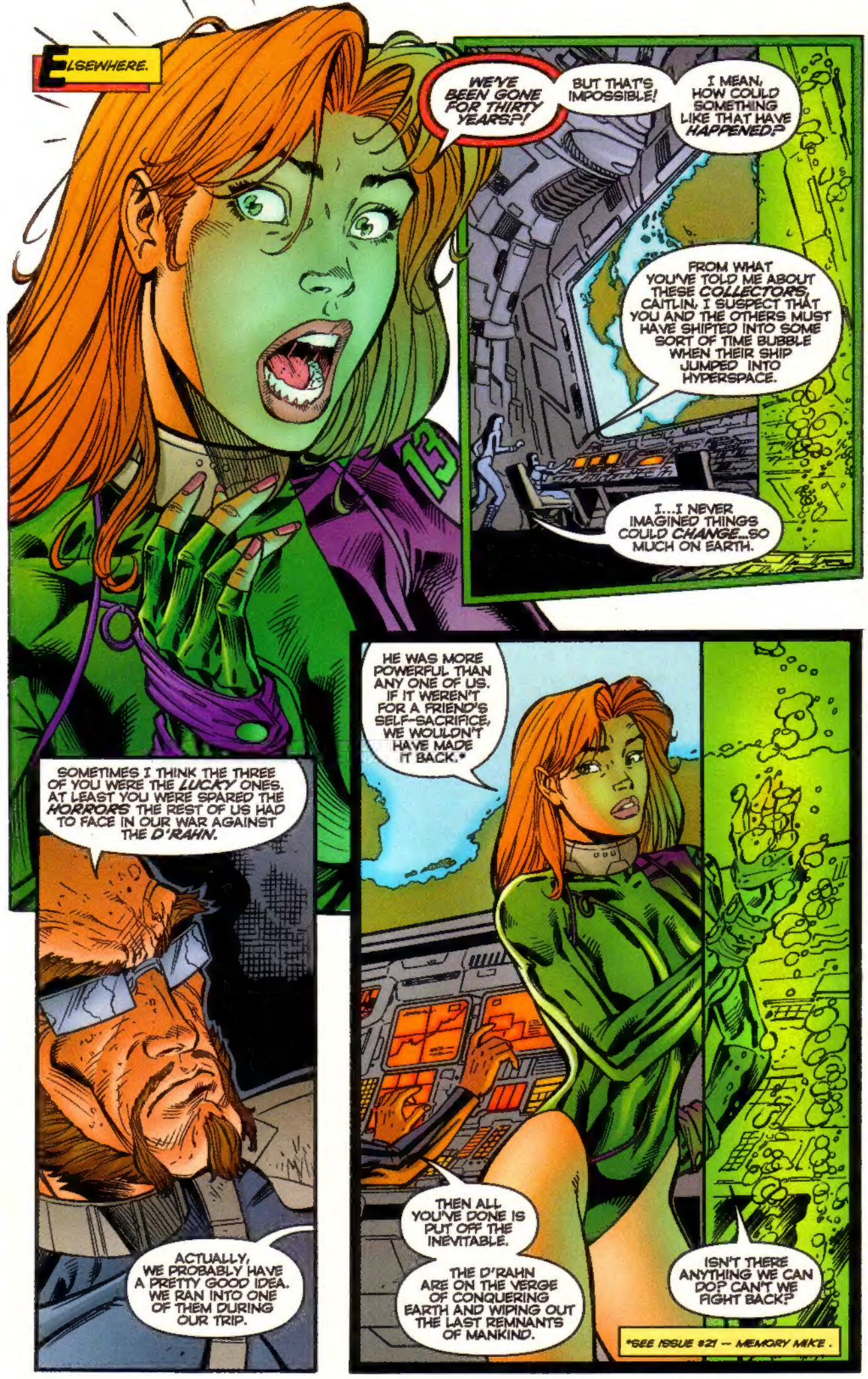
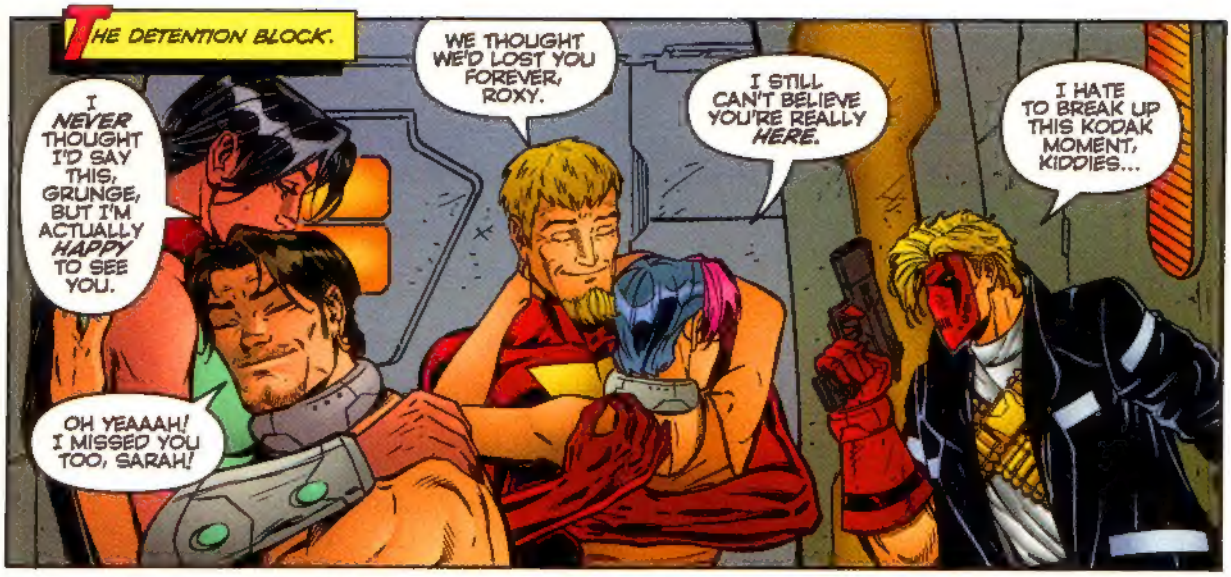
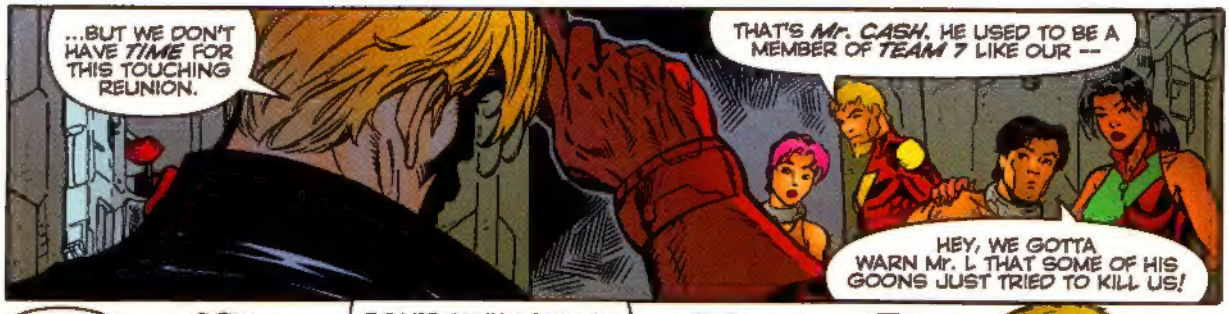
I CAN HARDLY SEE ANYTHING IN THIS THUNDER-STORM.
IF THAT WASN'T BAD ENOUGH, SIR, ALL THIS LIGHTNING IS INTERFERING WITH OUR SENSOR READINGS.
HOLD IT! I THINK I'M PICKING UP SOMETHING, CAPTAIN.
THERE'S A BOGEY, NORTHEAST OF US AND COMING IN FAST! READINGS SAY IT'S A BIOLOGIC.
YOU SURE, CORPORAL? I DON'T SEE ANY --
--THING.
OH @#%@! IT'S A D'RAHN SCOUT! HIT THE ALAR--
SKRASH
SHRIPP
HURRGH!
NO! STAY AWA --
AARRGH!
SKREEEEE!
SHRIPP

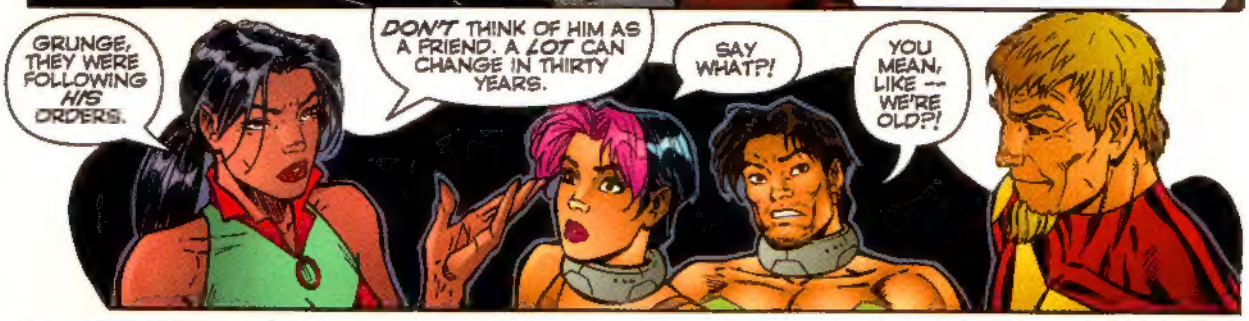

ELSEWHERE.
WE'VE BEEN GONE FOR THIRTY YEARS?!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I MEAN, HOW COULD SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAVE HAPPENED?
FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME ABOUT THESE COLLECTORS, CAITLIN, I SUSPECT THAT YOU AND THE OTHERS MUST HAVE SHIFTED INTO SOME SORT OF TIME BUBBLE WHEN THEIR SHIP JUMPED INTO HYPERSPACE.
I...I NEVER IMAGINED THINGS COULD CHANGE...SO MUCH ON EARTH.
SOMETIMES I THINK THE THREE OF YOU WERE THE LUCKY ONES. AT LEAST YOU WERE SPARED THE HORRORS THE REST OF US HAD TO FACE IN OUR WAR AGAINST THE D'RAHN.
ACTUALLY, WE PROBABLY HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA. WE RAN INTO ONE OF THEM DURING OUR TRIP.
HE WAS MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY ONE OF US. IF IT WEREN'T FOR A FRIEND'S SELF-SACRIFICE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT BACK.*
THEN ALL YOU'VE DONE IS PUT OFF THE INEVITABLE.
THE D'RAHN ARE ON THE VERGE OF CONQUERING EARTH AND WIPING OUT THE LAST REMNANTS OF MANKIND.
ISN'T THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO? CAN'T WE FIGHT BACK?
*SEE ISSUE #21 — MEMORY MIKE.

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!
THERE'S NO ONE LEFT TO FIGHT THEM ANYMORE! NEW YORK CITY IS THE LAST HUMAN STRONGHOLD LEFT ON EARTH!
BUT WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF SPBs* TO HELP DEFEND THE CITY.
*SPB= SUPER POWERED BEING.
SLAM
THAT'S WHY THE CODON ENZYME CONTAINED IN THESE TUBES MAY BE OUR ONLY HOPE OF STOPPING THE D'RAHN.
HOW DOES IT WORK?
IT'S AN AIRBORNE BIO-CHEMICAL AGENT THAT BREAKS DOWN THE D'RAHN'S D.N.A., CAUSING MASSIVE CELLULAR BREAKDOWN.
WILL THERE BE ANY SIDE-EFFECTS TO PEOPLE?
UNFORTUNATELY, THE ENZYME WILL HAVE A SIMILAR EFFECT ON ALL HIGHER LIFE FORMS ON THE PLANET...
...INCLUDING HUMANS.
YOU CAN'T DO THAT, Mr. LYNCH! TOO MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL BE KILLED!
LOOK, ROXY, GRUNGE AND I CAN HELP YOU IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE D'RAHN!
I'M AFRAID YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS HAVE CAUSED ENOUGH PROBLEMS FOR TODAY!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, RACHEL?
I JUST GOT WORD THAT GRIPTER, RAINMAKER AND BURNOUT HAVE FREED GRUNGE AND FREEFALL FROM THE DETENTION BLOCK — BEFORE WE COULD GET THE NEURO-SAMPLE!

DETENTION BLOCK?! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT --
SHUT UP.
DAMN YOU, CASH!
ALERT SECURITY! I WANT THEM ALL SHOT ON SIGHT!
WHAT?! ARE YOU CRAZY?! YOU CAN'T DO THA--
UNGH!
WE CAN AND WE WILL! YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE IN NO POSITION TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
THERE'S MORE AT STAKE HERE THAN JUST THE LIVES OF YOUR TWO FRIENDS!
THAT'S IT!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU AND YOUR ATTITUDE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S DONE TO YOU, SIR --
-- BUT IT'S OBVIOUS TO ME THAT YOU CAN'T TELL YOUR FRIENDS FROM YOUR ENEMIES ANYMORE!
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, CAITLIN.
BOBBY AND SARAH BETRAYED ME WHEN THEY JOINED COLE CASH AND HIS INSURGENTS. ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, THEY WILL BE STOPPED.
JUST LIKE YOU.
AARRGH!
WE'D BETTER TAKE HER TO MED-LAB AND GET THAT NEURO-SAMPLE.
NOT YET. WE MAY STILL BE ABLE TO GET IT FROM ROXY OR GRUNGE --
DIRECTOR GENERAL, WE MAY HAVE A PROBLEM!
WHAT IS IT?
WE'VE JUST LOST CONTACT WITH ALL OUR PERIMETER BRIDGE POSTS.
...ROXY...

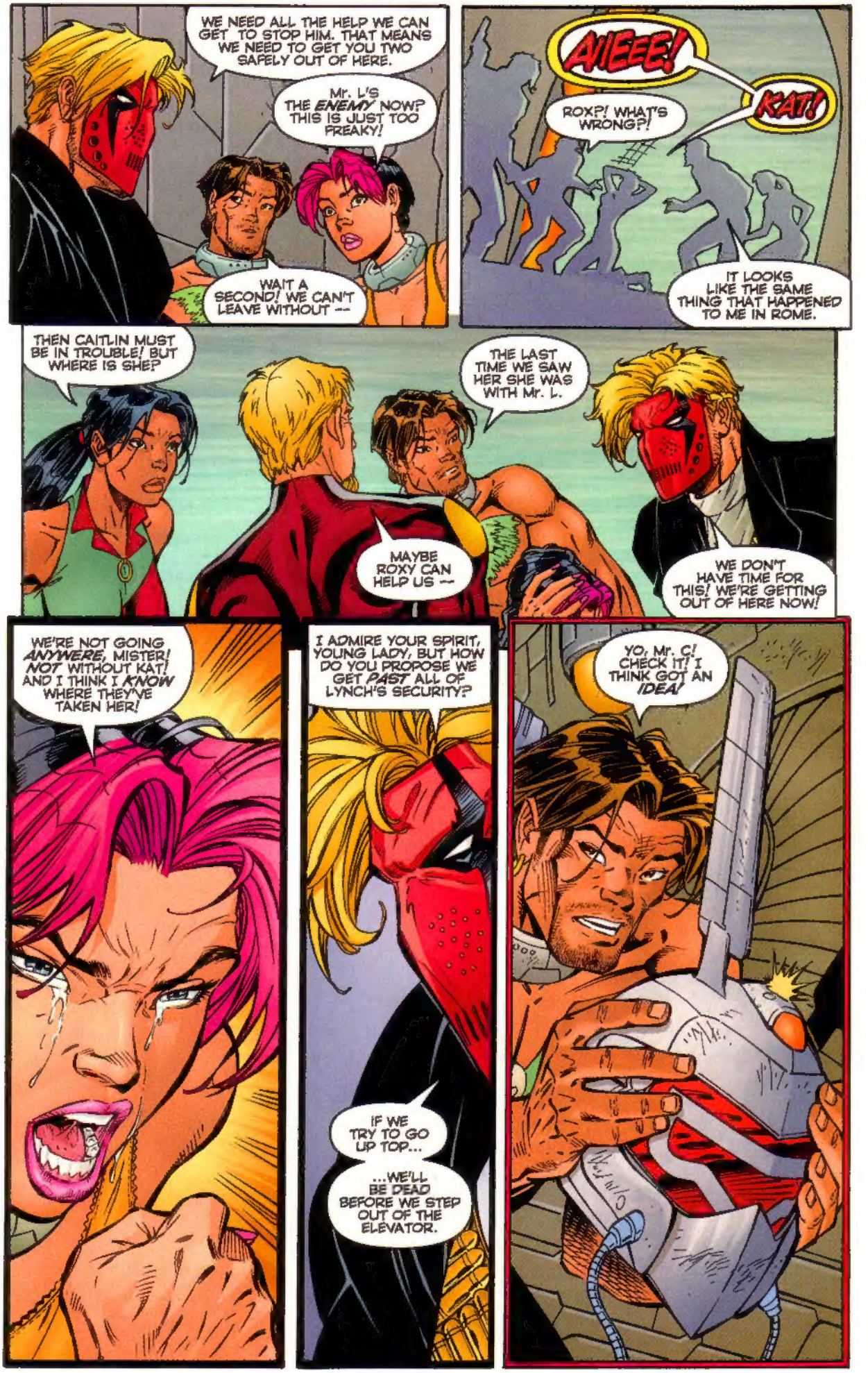

THE DETENTION BLOCK.
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SAY THIS, GRUNGE, BUT I'M ACTUALLY HAPPY TO SEE YOU.
WE THOUGHT WE'D LOST YOU FOREVER, ROXY.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE REALLY HERE.
I HATE TO BREAK UP THIS KODAK MOMENT, KIDDIES...
OH YEAAAH! I MISSED YOU TOO, SARAH!


...BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS TOUCHING REUNION.
THAT'S Mr. CASH. HE USED TO BE A MEMBER OF TEAM 7 LIKE OUR --
HEY, WE GOTTA WARN Mr. L THAT SOME OF HIS GOONS JUST TRIED TO KILL US!


GRUNGE, THEY WERE FOLLOWING HIS ORDERS.
DON'T THINK OF HIM AS A FRIEND. A LOT CAN CHANGE IN THIRTY YEARS.
SAY WHAT?!
YOU MEAN, LIKE -- WE'RE OLD?!

NO, JUST SARAH AND I ARE, GRUNGE. THE TWO OF YOU LOOK AS YOUNG AS THE DAY YOU LEFT.
UNFORTUNATELY, MY OLD MAN HASN'T AGED NEARLY AS WELL. HE'S BECOME AS DANGEROUS AS THE D'RAHN.
BUT Mr. L TOLD US HE WANTED TO DESTROY THE D'RAHN.
GRUNGE IS RIGHT! SO SHOULDN'T WE BE HELPING HIM?

I'M AFRAID IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE, ROXY. MY FATHER'S SOLUTION IS WORSE THAN THE PROBLEM.
IF HE SUCCEEDS IN HIS PLAN, IT WILL MEAN THE END OF LIFE ON EARTH AS WE KNOW IT...


WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET TO STOP HIM. THAT MEANS WE NEED TO GET YOU TWO SAFELY OUT OF HERE.
Mr. L'S THE *ENEMY* NOW? THIS IS JUST TOO FREAKY!
WAIT A SECOND! WE CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT --
AIEEE!
KAT!
ROXY! WHAT'S WRONG?!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE SAME THING THAT HAPPENED TO ME IN ROME.
THEN CAITLIN MUST BE IN TROUBLE! BUT WHERE IS SHE?
THE LAST TIME WE SAW HER SHE WAS WITH Mr. L.
MAYBE ROXY CAN HELP US --
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS! WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE NOW!
WE'RE NOT GOING *ANYWERE*, MISTER! *NOT* WITHOUT KAT! AND I THINK I *KNOW* WHERE THEY'VE TAKEN HER!
I ADMIRE YOUR SPIRIT, YOUNG LADY, BUT HOW DO YOU PROPOSE WE GET *PAST* ALL OF LYNCH'S SECURITY?
IF WE TRY TO GO UP TOP...
...WE'LL BE DEAD BEFORE WE STEP OUT OF THE ELEVATOR.
YO, Mr. C! CHECK IT! I THINK GOT AN *IDEA!*

CHINATOWN.
DR. TSUNG, WE'RE GETTING REPORTS THAT KEY I.O. OUTPOSTS ARE UNDER ATTACK! COULD IT BE THE D'RAHN, SIR?
MORE LIKELY THEIR EVOLS BEING USED AS CANNON FODDER TO PAVE THE WAY FOR THE MAIN ATTACK.
PUT ME IN CONTACT WITH SIGMA.
YES, DOCTOR.
ETHAN, HAVE YOU FOUND ENERTIA AND VIBE?
WE'RE ALREADY EN ROUTE BACK TO THE BASE. WHAT'S WRONG, DOC? YOU SOUND WORRIED.
WE'VE DETECTED POSSIBLE D'RAHN ACTIVITY NEAR THE CITY LIMITS.
I WANT YOU TO GET BACK HERE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
UNDERSTOOD. ANY WORD FROM CASH?
NEGATIVE. I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THEM. THEY SHOULD'VE RETURNED FROM THE TOWERS BY NOW.
WELL, BOBBY AND SARAH KNEW THE RISKS WHEN THEY DECIDED TO GO THERE TO FIND THEIR FRIENDS.
WHAT?! THEY'RE BOTH IN THE CITY?! AND TRAPPED IN THE TOWERS?!
VIBE, LITTLE BROTHER, WE'VE GOT TO HELP THEM.
NO, WE STICK TO THE ORIGINAL PLAN --
HEY!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
CHANGING THE PLAN, ETHAN! YOU KNEW THE RISKS WHEN YOU CAME LOOKING FOR US IN THE FIRST PLACE!
SCHREECH

THE DRAHN FLAGSHIP.

<AS WE SPEAK OUR FORCES ARE DESCENDING UPON THE LAST OF THE TERRAN STRONGHOLDS.>

<WHAT ABOUT THEIR DEFENSES ON THE ISLAND? THE TOWERS POSE A FORMIDABLE THREAT TO OUR LANDING SHIPS.>

<WE'VE ALREADY SENT IN OUR EVOLUTIONARIES TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR OUR FINAL ASSAULT. THEY WILL NEUTRALIZE-->

<MY LORD! I BRING NEWS OF THE CAMPAIGN!>

<SPEAK! WHAT IS IT?>

<OUR EVOLS HAVE INFILTRATED THE ISLAND AND ARE PREPARING TO LAY SIEGE TO THE TOWERS.>

<THEN WE STAND AT THE THRESHOLD OF VICTORY!>

<SOON THIS PLANET WILL BE OURS AND THESE TERRANS WILL BE VANQUISHED, ONCE AND FOR ALL!>

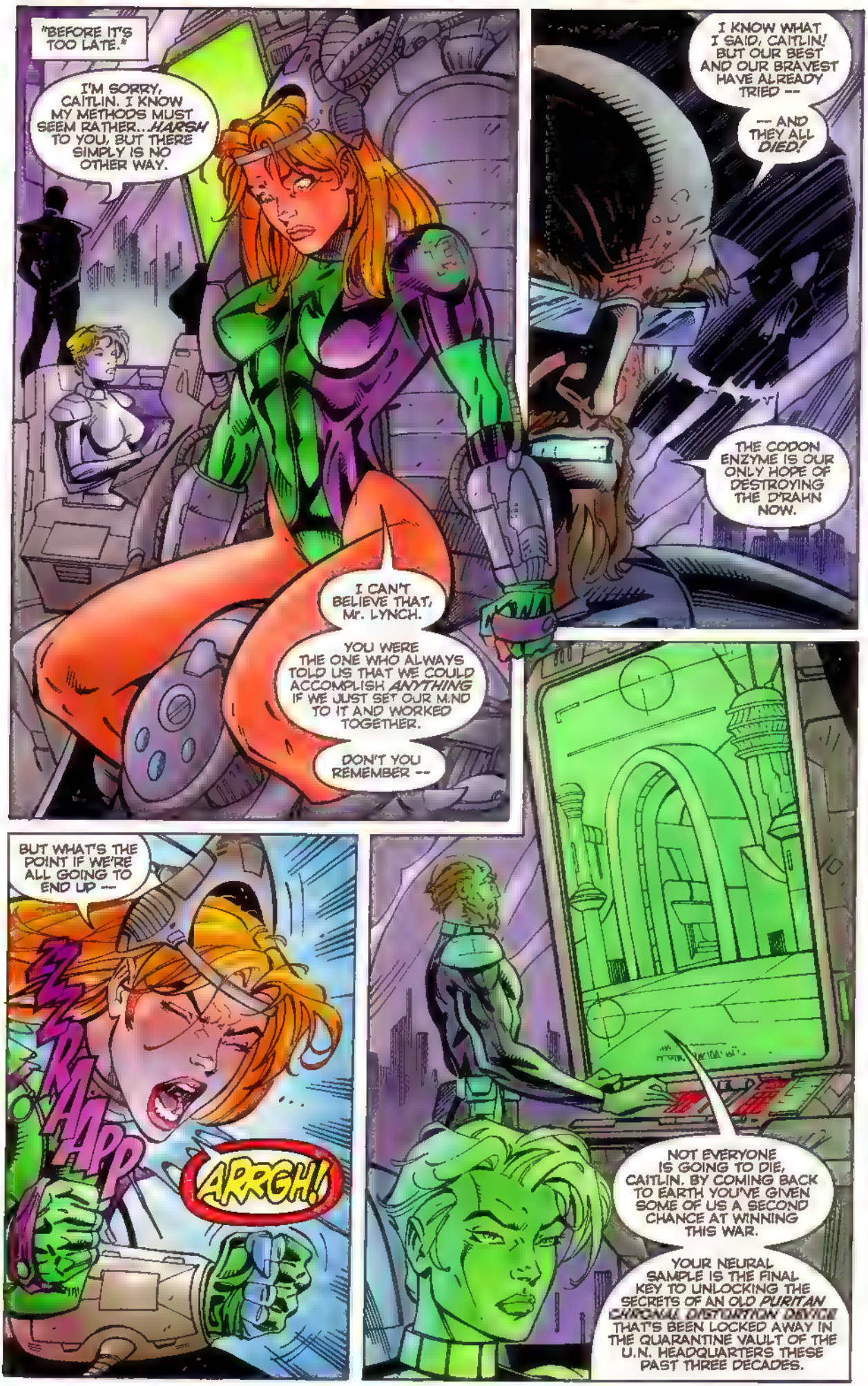
<A WORD OF CAUTION, LORD CHRYON. MY *SPIES* TELL ME THAT THE TERRANS MAY HAVE CREATED A *DOOMSDAY WEAPON* TO DESTROY US.>

<RUMOR AND DISINFORMATION MEANT TO FRIGHTEN US, LADY K'YTHRA!>

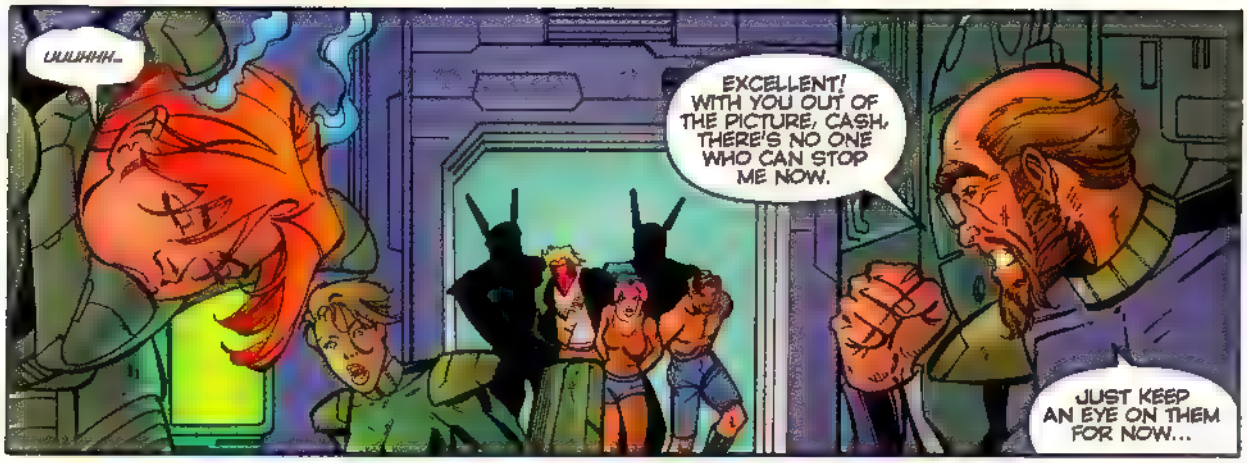
<WHAT IS THE NEXT PHASE OF OUR ATTACK?>

<ONCE OUR EVOLS HAVE NEUTRALIZED THE TOWERS' DEFENSE SYSTEMS, OUR MOTHERSHIPS SHALL LAND AND RELEASE THE STORMTROOPERS!>

SKREEE!
SKRAW!
UZZZZTTTTT
SLASSH
JACKSON! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
AARGH!
MY SYMBIOTE IS HOLDING UP SO FAR!
VWWLOOP
BUT THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO STAY ALIVE IS BY TAKING THE FIGHT TO THEM!
GRAZZY
DAMN! IF IT WEREN'T FOR OUR POWERS...
...WE'D BOTH BE CORPSES BY NOW.
AT LEAST NOW WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE BLACK RAZORS. HOW'RE YOU DOING, CHANG?
KRAK
SKREEE
SKREEE
UZZZZTTTTT
PUSHING IT TO THE LIMIT, MY MAN! IT'S TAKING ALL THE MOJO I'VE GOT LEFT TO FINISH OFF THESE MONSTERS!
THIS IS JUST THE *BEGINNING*, JACKSON.
THEN WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE TOWERS AND WARN LYNCH.

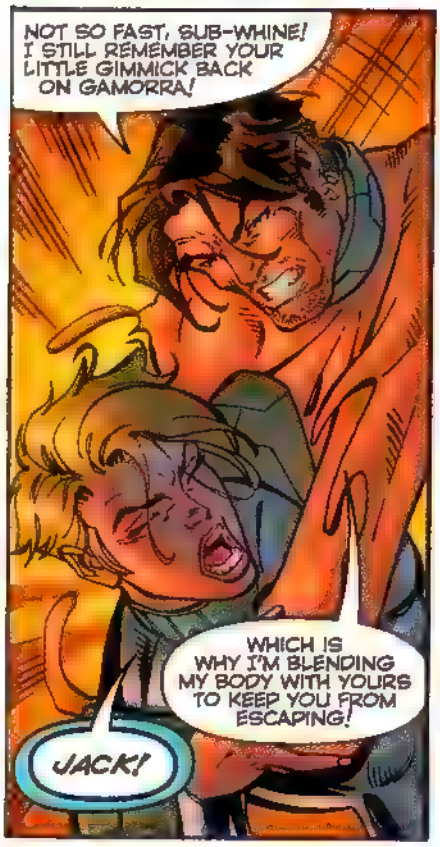

"BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE."
I'M SORRY, CAITLIN. I KNOW MY METHODS MUST SEEM RATHER...*HARSH* TO YOU, BUT THERE SIMPLY IS NO OTHER WAY.
I KNOW WHAT I SAID, CAITLIN! BUT OUR BEST AND OUR BRAVEST HAVE ALREADY TRIED --
-- AND THEY ALL *DIED!*
THE CODON ENZYME IS OUR ONLY HOPE OF DESTROYING THE D'RAHN NOW.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT, Mr. LYNCH.
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO ALWAYS TOLD US THAT WE COULD ACCOMPLISH *ANYTHING* IF WE JUST SET OUR MIND TO IT AND WORKED TOGETHER.
DON'T YOU REMEMBER --
BUT WHAT'S THE POINT IF WE'RE ALL GOING TO END UP --
ZZZRAAPP
ARRGH!
NOT EVERYONE IS GOING TO DIE, CAITLIN. BY COMING BACK TO EARTH YOU'VE GIVEN SOME OF US A SECOND CHANCE AT WINNING THIS WAR.
YOUR NEURAL SAMPLE IS THE FINAL KEY TO UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF AN OLD *PURITAN CHRONAL DISTORTION DEVICE* THAT'S BEEN LOCKED AWAY IN THE QUARANTINE VAULT OF THE U.N. HEADQUARTERS THESE PAST THREE DECADES.

BUT WHY...HAVE YOU WAITED... TILL NOW?
THE MACHINE REQUIRES A VIABLE SAMPLE FROM THE DESIGNATED TIME FRAME IN ORDER TO FUNCTION.
IN THIS CASE, YOU.
JACK, WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
CHANG AND DANE JUST REPORTED THAT THEY'VE ENCOUNTERED D'RAHN EVOLS ALONG THE PERIMETER OF THE ISLAND.
I'M PUTTING THE TOWERS ON ALERT.
THEN WE'D BETTER PROCEED WITH THE EXTRACTION.
STAY STILL, CAITLIN. DON'T MAKE THIS ANY HARDER THAN IT HAS TO BE.
STOP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
VWIIPP
VWIIPP
ARRGH!
THIS CONTRAPTION IS DESIGNED TO EXTRACT A SMALL AMOUNT OF GREY MATTER FROM YOUR CEREBRAL CORTEX.
WHILE THE PROCESS IS QUITE PAINFUL, IT SHOULDN'T BE FATAL.
PLEASE, JOHN! LISTEN TO ME! THE OTHERS AND I CAN HELP YOU FIGHT THEM! WE'VE ALREADY DONE IT ONCE!
WE'RE DEALING WITH AN ARMADA THIS TIME, CAITLIN. WE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE.
BELIEVE ME, THIS IS ALL FOR THE BEST.


UUUHHH...
EXCELLENT! WITH YOU OUT OF THE PICTURE, CASH, THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN STOP ME NOW.
JUST KEEP AN EYE ON THEM FOR NOW...

...I HAVE SOME OTHER BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO --
JACK, WATCH OUT! IT'S A TR!--
UNNGH!
ZZZRRAP
NICE SHOT, SARAH! I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE!
ALL RIGHT, SO WE MADE IT! NOW GET YOUR FRIEND AND LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!

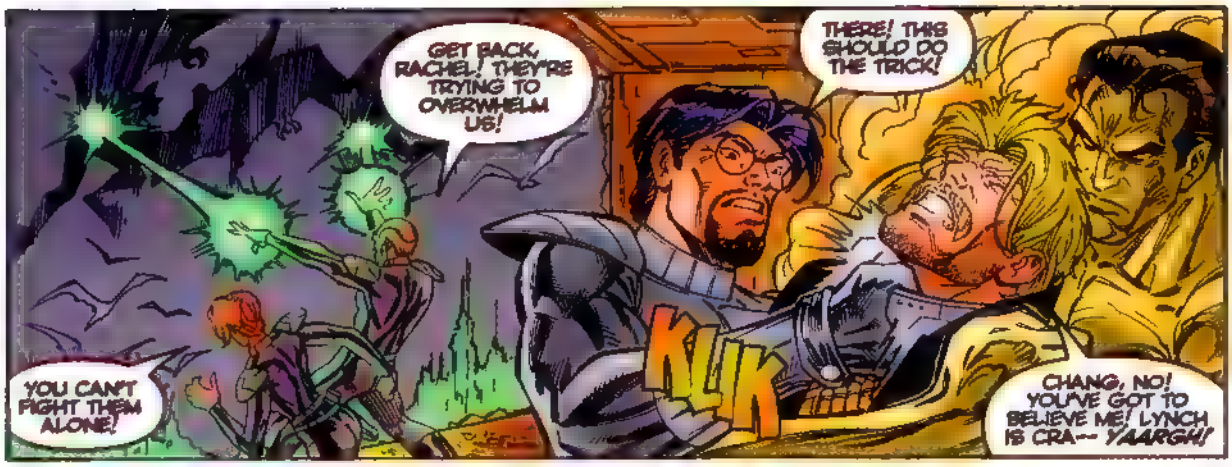
KAT? TALK TO ME! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
ROXY? WHAT'RE YOU ..DOING HERE...?
BOY, HAVE I GOT A STORY FOR YOU!

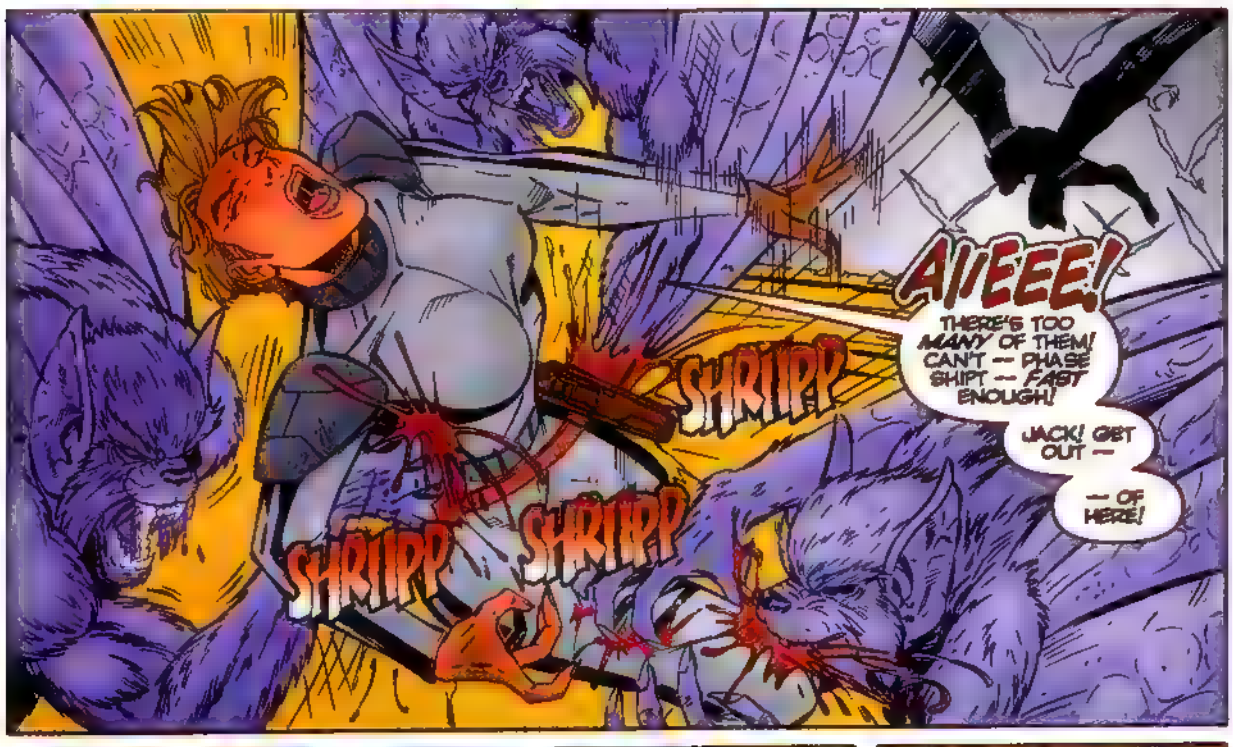

NOT SO FAST, SUB-WHINE! I STILL REMEMBER YOUR LITTLE GIMMICK BACK ON GAMORRA!
WHICH IS WHY I'M BLENDING MY BODY WITH YOURS TO KEEP YOU FROM ESCAPING!
JACK!

SORRY, RACHEL, BUT MY OLD MAN'S A LITTLE BUSY RIGHT NOW!
FWOOOSH
VZZZM
STAY FOCUSED, BOBBY! LYNCH IS ONE TOUGH BASTARD! ONE MISTAKE AND HE COULD TAKE US ALL DOWN!
A BOLD COURSE OF ACTION, COLE. I'M IMPRESSED.
BUT NONETHELSS FUTILE. TAKE THEM!

CASH! LOOK OUT! WE'VE GOT COMPANY!
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE, COLE. ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.
SLAM
KRAK
UNNGH!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE BOY!
ABOUT TIME YOU GOT HERE, CHANG!
WATCH OUT, PHIL!
WHA-WHAT DID THEY CALL YOU?!
THAT'S RIGHT, KID! I'M YOUR FATHER!
BUT DON'T THINK IT'S GOING TO STOP ME FROM DOING WHAT I HAVE TO!
IT'S OVER, COLE
KRAK
WITH YOU OUT OF THE WAY, THE OTHERS DON'T HAVE A CHANCE!
SKRASSH
JACK, WE SHOULD -- OOOF!
GET DOWN, ROXY!
NOW WHAT?!

"I'D SAY THE CAVALRY'S JUST ARRIVED, ROXY!"
THIS IS CRAZY, VIBE! YOU'RE GOING TO GET US ALL KILLED!
THEN AT LEAST WE'LL DIE FIGHTING LYNCH INSTEAD OF HIDING FROM HIM, ETHAN!
STAND CLEAR, BOYS! I'VE GOT SOME KINETIC ENERGY TO RUN OFF!
VRASSH
THEN LET'S DO IT!
THOOM
MY SHOCK WAVES WILL TAKE CARE OF THESE TWO!
MAKE WAY FOR THE UNSTOPPABLE FORCE!
OH ##@%! SARAH! BOBBY! GET EVERYONE OUT OF HERE! NOW!
WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?!
EVOLUTION-ARIES! SCOUTS FOR THE DRAHN!
PUNCH IT, ETHAN!
BUT WHAT ABOUT CASH?!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! I'LL CATCH UP TO YOU!
NOT THIS TIME, HERO!
VLOOP


GET BACK, RACHEL! THEY'RE TRYING TO OVERWHELM US!
THERE! THIS SHOULD DO THE TRICK!
KLIK
YOU CAN'T FIGHT THEM ALONE!
CHANG, NO! YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME! LYNCH IS CRA-- YAARGH!


AIEEE!
THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM! CAN'T -- PHASE SHIFT -- FAST ENOUGH!
SHRIIPP
JACK! GET OUT --
-- OF HERE!
SHRIIPP
SHRIIPP

RACHEL!
NO!
WE'VE GOT TO PULL BACK AND SEAL OFF THIS BREACH!
LET ME GO! I WON'T LEAVE HER!

SORRY, JACK...
...BUT SHE'S GONE.
SAVE YOUR SYMPATHY FOR THE D'RAHN AND THE REBELS, CHANG! THEY SHOULD HAVE KILLED ME WHEN THEY HAD THE CHANCE!

CHINATOWN.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, I THINK IT'S TIME WE GOT DOWN TO BUSINESS.
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU ALL TOGETHER AGAIN. AT LEAST Mr. CASH'S SACRIFICE WAS NOT IN VAIN.
WHAT'S UP WITH SARAH AND BOBBY? WHY ARE THEY SO TOUCHY-FEELY WITH VIBE AND ENERTIA?
LOOKS LIKE THE FOUR OF 'EM ARE PRETTY TIGHT.
ARE YOU UP FOR THIS, CAITLIN?
LUCKY FOR ME, I'VE GOT A FEW BRAIN CELLS TO SPARE
SO WHAT'S THEIR STORY, DOC?
PERHAPS BOBBY AND SARAH SHOULD TELL YOU THEMSELVES.
VIBE AND ENERTIA. .
. .ARE OUR CHILDREN.
SAY WHAT? BUT I THOUGHT .
WHOA!
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, ROXY. THEY'RE TEST-TUBE BABIES. LYNCH GENERATED THEM WHEN HE WANTED MORE SPBs TO FIGHT AGAINST THE D'RAHN
NOW, LET US DEAL WITH THE CRISIS AT HAND.
DID LYNCH TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT HIS PLANS, CAITLIN?
HE'S GOT SOME SORT OF CHEMICAL DOOMSDAY WEAPON THAT HE WANTS TO USE AGAINST THE D'RAHN.
THE ONLY PROBLEM IS, IT'S GOING TO WIPE OUT THE LAST OF HUMANITY AS WELL
THEN WE'LL HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO STOP HIM.
AND AFTER THE WAY HE SCREWED US OVER, I SAY IT'S TIME FOR SOME PAYBACK!

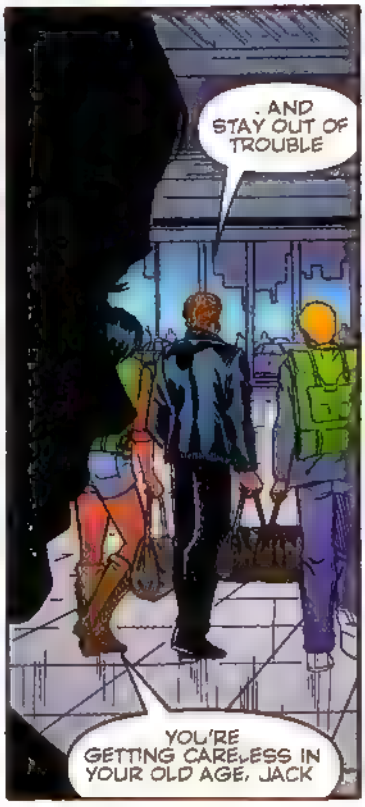
THANKS AGAIN FOR THE RIDE JIMMY. IT WOULD'VE BEEN A LOT HARDER GETTING BACK INTO THE COUNTRY ON OUR OWN.

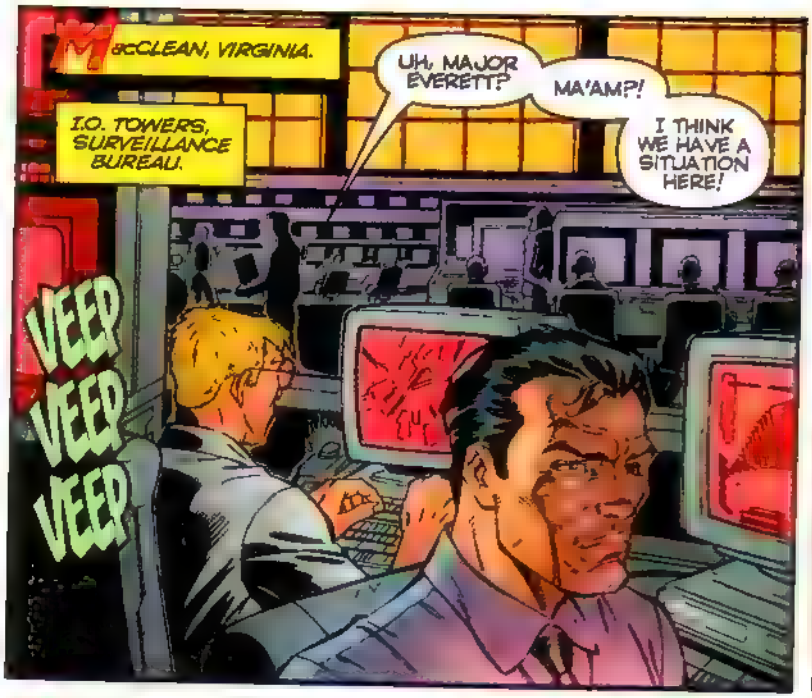
IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO, JACK. I'M JUST SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BACK ON GALAPOMOA.

THAT WASN'T YOUR FAULT. IT WASN'T ANYBODY'S FAULT.

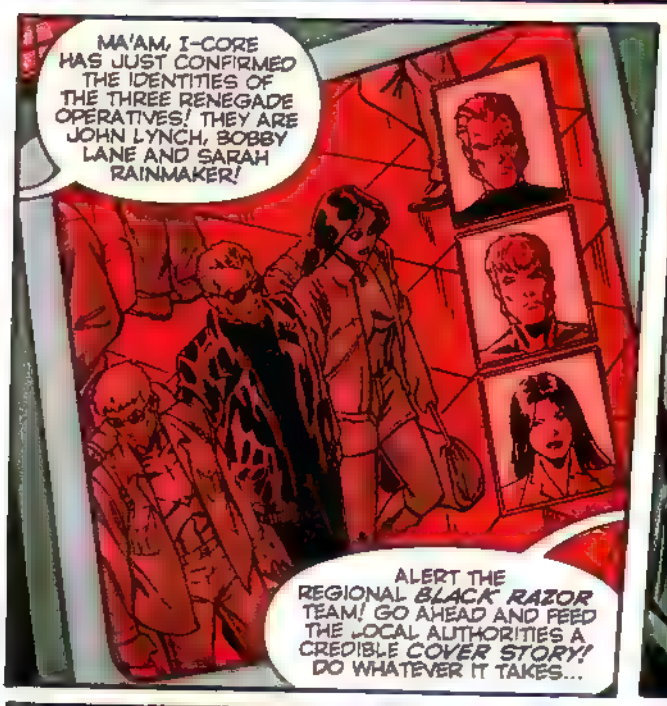
THE IMPORTANT THING NOW IS FIGURING OUT WHAT TO DO NEXT.

SO WHAT IS THE PLAN? ANYTHING I CAN HELP YOU WITH?



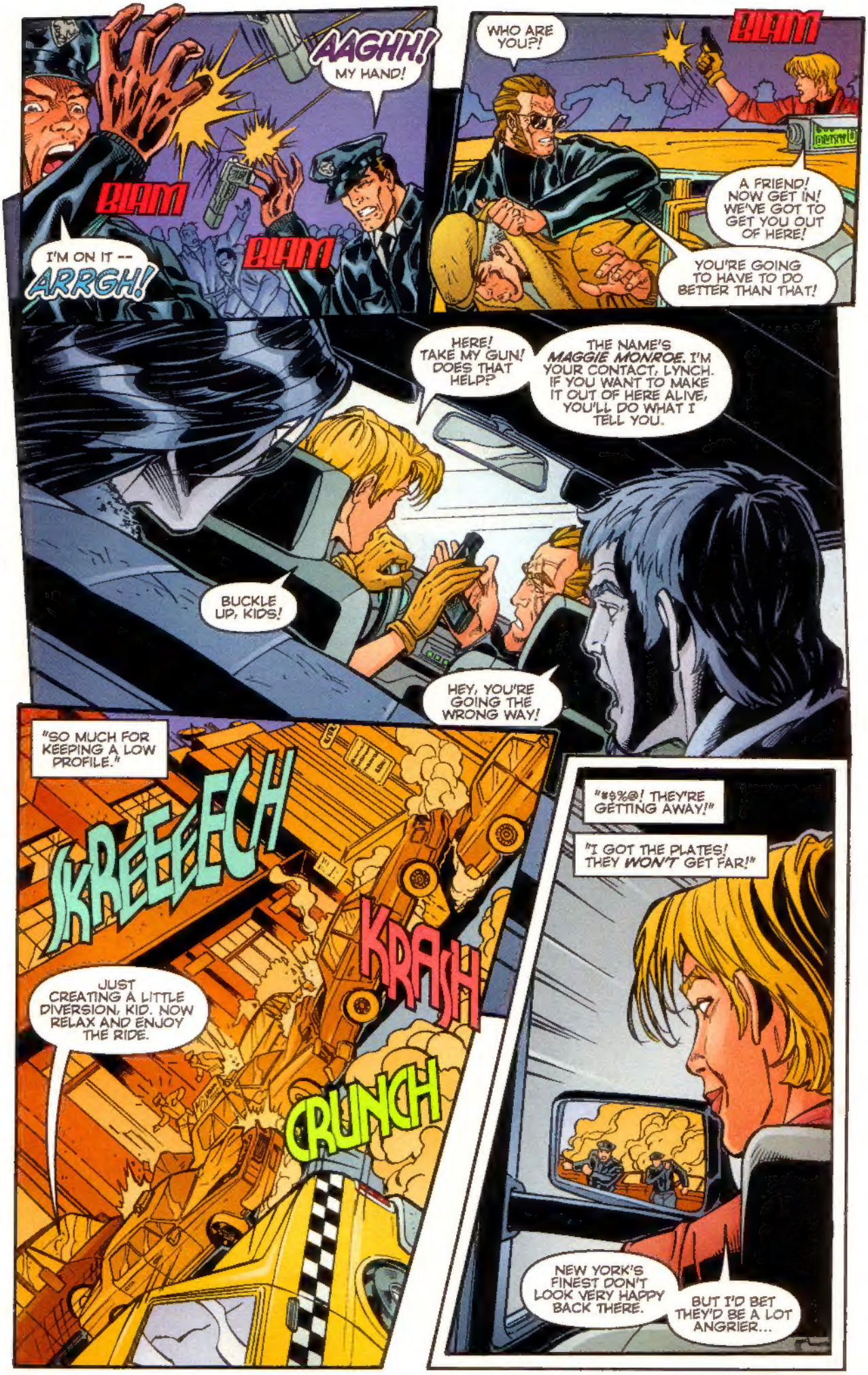

McCLEAN, VIRGINIA.
I.O. TOWERS, SURVEILLANCE BUREAU.
UH, MAJOR EVERETT?
MA'AM?!
I THINK WE HAVE A SITUATION HERE!
VEEP VEEP VEEP

CALM DOWN, HENDERSON. WHAT'VE YOU GOT ON YOUR BOARD?
I-CORE HAS JUST REGISTERED MULTIPLE RED-FLAGS POPPING UP IN NEW YORK CITY. I'M GETTING A VISUAL FEED NOW.

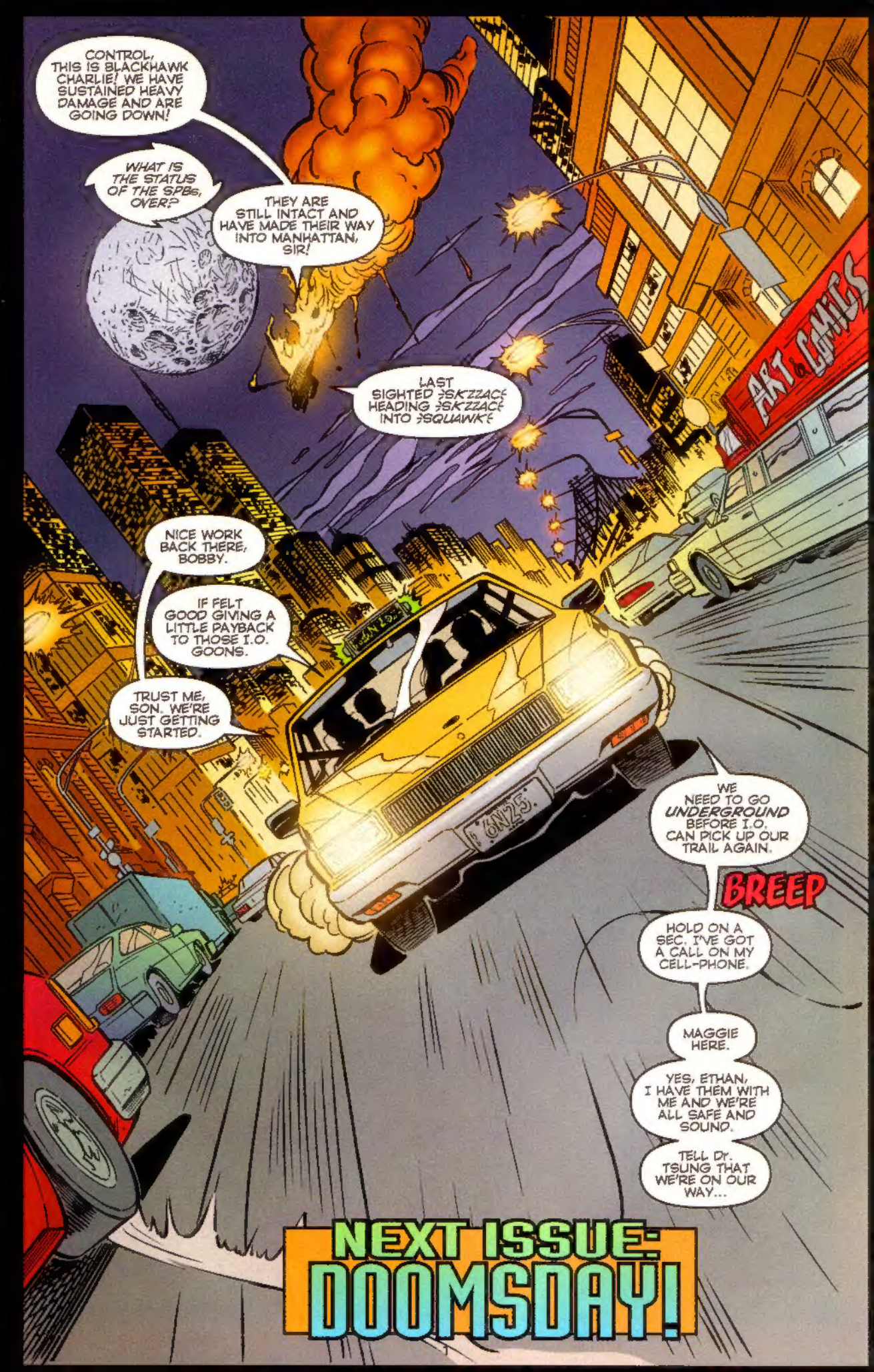

MA'AM, I-CORE HAS JUST CONFIRMED THE IDENTITIES OF THE THREE RENEGADE OPERATIVES! THEY ARE JOHN LYNCH, BOBBY LANE AND SARAH RAINMAKER!
ALERT THE REGIONAL BLACK RAZOR TEAM! GO AHEAD AND FEED THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES A CREDIBLE COVER STORY! DO WHATEVER IT TAKES...

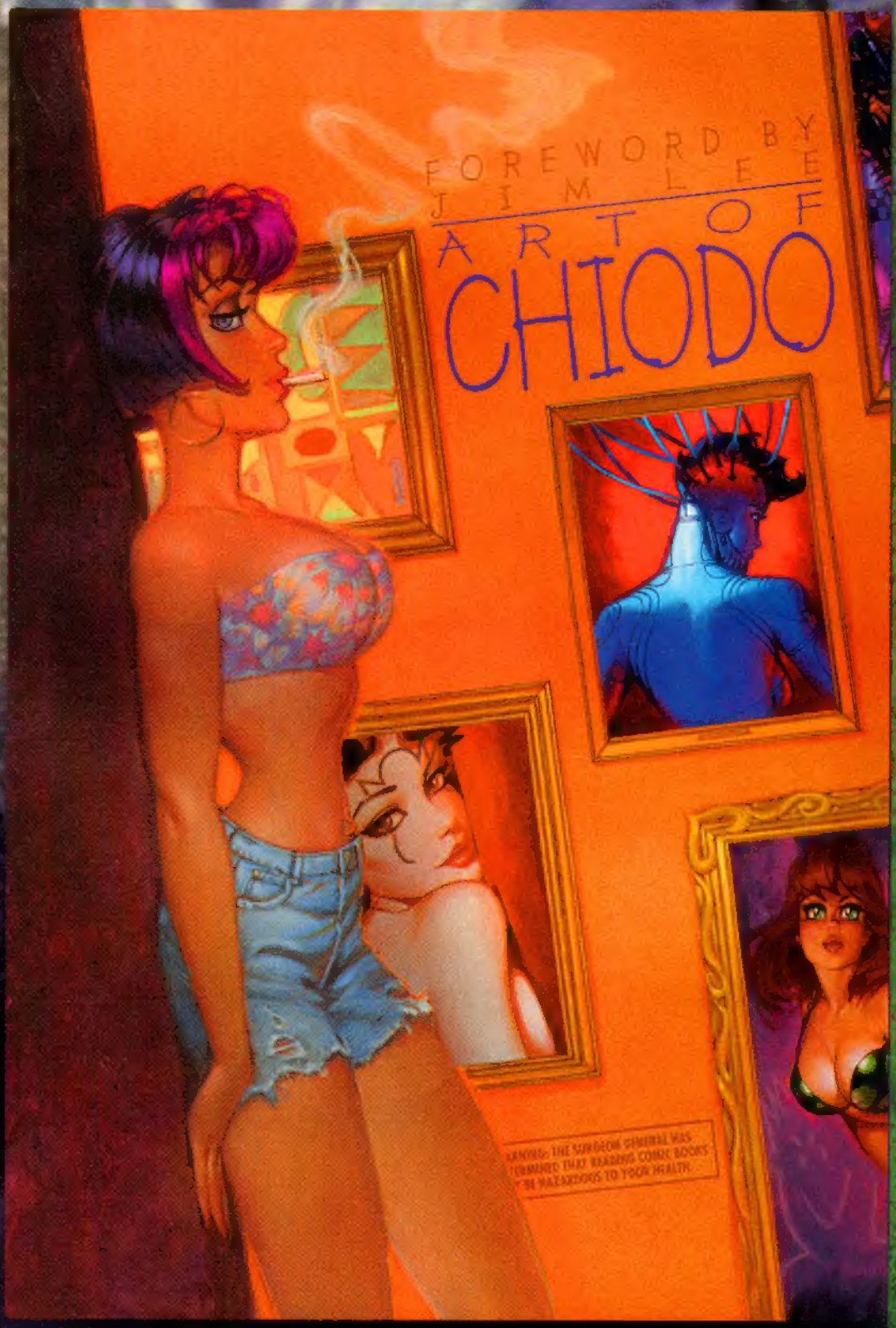
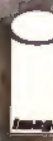
"...BUT I WANT THOSE THREE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY!"
POLICE! STOP RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!
SARAH! BOBBY! GET IN THE CAB!
WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT!

CALL IT IN, MORGAN!
TELL 'EM WE FOUND THE TERRORISTS EXITING THE MAIN TERMINAL!


AAGHH!
MY HAND!
BLAM
BLAM
I'M ON IT --
ARRGH!
WHO ARE YOU?!
BLAM
A FRIEND! NOW GET IN! WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT!
HERE! TAKE MY GUN! DOES THAT HELP?
THE NAME'S MAGGIE MONROE. I'M YOUR CONTACT, LYNCH. IF YOU WANT TO MAKE IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE, YOU'LL DO WHAT I TELL YOU.
BUCKLE UP, KIDS!
HEY, YOU'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY!
"SO MUCH FOR KEEPING A LOW PROFILE."
SKREEEECH
KRASH
CRUNCH
JUST CREATING A LITTLE DIVERSION, KID. NOW RELAX AND ENJOY THE RIDE.
"#$%@! THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!"
"I GOT THE PLATES! THEY WON'T GET FAR!"
NEW YORK'S FINEST DON'T LOOK VERY HAPPY BACK THERE.
BUT I'D BET THEY'D BE A LOT ANGRIER...

"...IF THEY KNEW THEY WERE JUST BEING USED AS ERRAND BOYS."
GIVE ME A SIT-REP, HENDERSON.
LYNCH AND THE TWO KIDS HAVE ELUDED THE POLICE AT THE AIRPORT AND HAVE HIJACKED A TAXI CAB.
WE HAVE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT A THIRD PARTY MAY HAVE HELPED THEM ESCAPE.
"THEN WE'VE LOST THEM!"
"NOT NECESSARILY, SIR. OUR AIRBORNE UNITS HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THEM AT ALL THE MAJOR POINTS OF ENTRY INTO THE CITY."
OPERATIONS CONTROL, THIS IS BLACKHAWK CHARLIE. WE'VE GOT A VISUAL I.D. ON YOUR RUNNER.
YOUR TARGETS ARE THREE FUGITIVE SPBs, BLACKHAWK CHARLIE.
YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO USE ANY NECESSARY FORCE TO TAKE THEM INTO CUSTODY!
HOLY--?! THAT CAR BEHIND US JUST GOT FRIED!
KATHOOM
IT'S AN I.O. GUNSHIP! HIT IT WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT, BOBBY!
WATCH IT! THEY'RE RETURNING FIRE!
FWOOOSH


CONTROL, THIS IS BLACKHAWK CHARLIE! WE HAVE SUSTAINED HEAVY DAMAGE AND ARE GOING DOWN!
WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE SPBs, OVER?
THEY ARE STILL INTACT AND HAVE MADE THEIR WAY INTO MANHATTAN, SIR!
LAST SIGHTED ;SK'ZZAC{ HEADING ;SK'ZZAC{ INTO ;SQUAWK{
ART & COMICS
NICE WORK BACK THERE, BOBBY.
IF FELT GOOD GIVING A LITTLE PAYBACK TO THOSE I.O. GOONS.
TRUST ME, SON. WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED.
WE NEED TO GO UNDERGROUND BEFORE I.O. CAN PICK UP OUR TRAIL AGAIN.
BREEP
HOLD ON A SEC. I'VE GOT A CALL ON MY CELL-PHONE.
MAGGIE HERE.
YES, ETHAN, I HAVE THEM WITH ME AND WE'RE ALL SAFE AND SOUND.
TELL Dr. TSUNG THAT WE'RE ON OUR WAY...
NEXT ISSUE:
DOOMSDAY!

Painted Perfection

Artwork by master painter Joe Chiodo, collected in a glorious gift edition!